CLAIMS:

1. A method of transmitting video data, comprising the steps of:

generating a first video data stream:

generating a second video data stream comprising a plurality of frames each predicted from a reference frame;

transmitting data from the first stream to a receiver;

on receiving from the receiver an indication that data in the first stream is corrupted, transmitting data from the second stream to the receiver.

2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

reverting back to transmitting data from the first stream after data from the second stream has been transmitted to the receiver.

3. A method for compensating for transmission errors in a video data stream comprising:

transmitting a first video data stream from a transmitter to a receiver,

detecting corrupted data in the transmitted data stream,

generating an indication that data is corrupted,

in response to the indication that the data is corrupted, transmitting data from a second video data stream predicted from a reference frame.

4. A method according to claim 3, further comprising reverting to the first video data stream after transmitting the data from the second video data stream.

5. A method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the step of detecting corrupted data is carried out at the receiver.

6. A method according to any of claims 3 to 5, wherein the step of generating an indication that data is corrupted is carried out at the receiver.

7. A method according to any of claims 3 to 6, wherein the step of generating an indication that data is corrupted includes the receiver generating an indication signal and transmitting the indication signal to the transmitter.

8. A method according to any of claims 3 to 7, wherein the step of transmitting data from the second video data stream is performed at the transmitter, the transmitted data from the second video data stream being received by the receiver.

9. A storage medium carrying computer readable code representing instructions for causing one or more processors to perform the method according to any of claims 1 to 8 when the instructions are executed by the processor or processors.

10. A computer program comprising instructions for causing one or more processors to perform the method according to any of claims 1 to 8 when the instructions are executed by the processor or processors.

11. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing instructions for causing one or more processors to perform the method according to any of claims 1 to 8 when the instructions are executed by the processor or processors.

12. Apparatus for transmitting video data, comprising:

an encoder for generating a first video data stream, the encoder further arranged for generating a second video data stream comprising a plurality of frames each predicted from a reference frame;

a transmitter for transmitting data from the first stream to a receiver;

means for receiving from the receiver an indication that data in the first stream is corrupted;

the transmitter upon receiving the indication is arranged for transmitting data from the second stream to the receiver.

13. Apparatus according to claim 12, the transmitter being further arranged for:

reverting back to transmitting data from the first stream after data from the second stream has been transmitted to the receiver.

14. A system for compensating for transmission errors in a video data stream comprising:

a transmitter for transmitting a first video data stream,

a receiver for receiving the first video data stream,

means for detecting corrupted data in the first data stream, and

means for transmitting data from a second video data stream predicted from a reference frame after detection of corrupted data in the first video data stream.

15. A system according to claim 14, wherein the means for detecting the corrupted data in the first video stream is at the receiver.

16. A system according to claim 14 or 15, wherein the transmitter is operable to transmit the data from the second video data stream to the receiver after detection of corrupted data in the first video data stream.

17. A storage medium carrying computer readable code representing instructions for causing one or more processors to operate as the apparatus or system according to any of claims 12 to 16 when the instructions are executed by the processor or processors.

18. A computer program comprising instructions for causing one or more processors to operate as the apparatus or system according to any of claims 12 to 16 when the instructions are executed by the processor or processors.

19. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing instructions for causing one or more processors to operate as the apparatus or system according to any of claims 12 to 16 when the instructions are executed by the processor or processors.